

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for operating a network connecting a plurality of processor cells that are already configured in a multiprocessor system with a plurality of links, comprising:

recognizing by software operating on at least one processor cell when a network operation can use a link of said plurality of links to implement a network operation, wherein said plurality of links comprises shared memory links for transmitting memory requests and memory responses between the processor cells, and wherein the link connects a high bandwidth integrated circuit of the one processor cell with another high bandwidth integrated circuit of another processor cell; and

utilizing said link of said plurality of links to perform said network operation.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said multiprocessor system is a symmetric multiprocessor system.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said software is an operating system.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said network is an Ethernet local area network.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said multiprocessor system includes at least two processor cells interconnected in a configuration chosen from a group of configurations consisting of: a fully interconnected configuration, a cross-bar configuration, a mesh configuration, or a ring configuration.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 5, wherein said step of recognizing comprises:

determining whether said link provides sufficient bandwidth to complete said network operation.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 5, wherein said step of recognizing comprises:

choosing a second link from said plurality of links when a first link of said plurality of links does not provide sufficient bandwidth to perform said network operation.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein said step of utilizing comprises:

suspending said network operation when said link of said plurality of links is not providing sufficient bandwidth to perform said network operation; and

resuming said network operation when said link of said plurality of links provides sufficient bandwidth to perform said network operation.

Claim 9 (Original): The method of claim 1, further comprising:

suspending said network operation when said link of said plurality of links is not providing sufficient bandwidth to perform said network operation; and

performing said network operation on a second link of said plurality of links when said link is not providing sufficient bandwidth to perform said network operation.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A method for operating a network connecting a plurality of processor cells that are already configured in a multiprocessor system with a plurality of links, comprising:

installing software on at least one processor cell of said plurality of processor cells, wherein said software is aware of said plurality of links between said plurality of processor cells, wherein said plurality of links comprises shared memory links for transmitting memory requests and memory responses between the processor cells, and wherein the link connects a high bandwidth integrated circuit of the one processor cell with another high bandwidth integrated circuit of another processor cell;

recognizing by said software when a network operation can use a link of said plurality of links to implement a network operation; and

utilizing said link of said plurality of links to perform said network operation.

Claim 11 (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein said multiprocessor system is a symmetric multiprocessor system.

Claim 12 (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein said software is an operating system.

Claim 13 (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein said network is an Ethernet local area network (LAN).

Claim 14 (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein said multiprocessor system includes at least two processor cells interconnected in a configuration chosen from a group of configurations consisting of: a fully interconnected configuration, a cross-bar configuration, a mesh configuration, or a ring configuration.

Claim 15 (Original): The method of claim 14, wherein said step of recognizing comprises:

determining whether said link provides sufficient bandwidth to perform said network operation.

Claim 16 (Original): The method of claim 14, wherein said step of recognizing comprises:

choosing a second link from said plurality of links when a first link of said plurality of links does not provide sufficient bandwidth to perform said network operation.

Claim 17 (Original): The method of claim 10, wherein said step of utilizing comprises:

suspending said network operation when said link of said plurality of links is not providing sufficient bandwidth; and

resuming said network operation when said link of said plurality of links provides sufficient bandwidth to perform said network operation.

Claim 18 (Original): The method of claim 10, further comprising:

suspending said network operation when said link of said plurality of links is not providing sufficient bandwidth; and

performing said network operation on a second link of said plurality of links when said link is not providing sufficient bandwidth to perform said network operation.

Claim 19 (currently amended): A network to perform a plurality of network operations, implemented on a multiprocessor system including a plurality of links to connect a plurality of processor cells, said network comprising:

a first module to recognize when a link of said plurality of links provides sufficient bandwidth to perform a network operation of said plurality of network operations, wherein said plurality of links comprises shared memory links for transmitting memory requests and memory responses between the processor cells, and wherein the link connects a high bandwidth integrated circuit of the one processor cell with another high bandwidth integrated circuit of another processor cell; and

a second module to utilize said link to perform said network operation of said plurality of network operations.

Claim 20 (Original): The network of claim 19, wherein said multiprocessor system is a symmetric multiprocessor system.

Claim 21 (Original): The network of claim 19, wherein said network is an Ethernet LAN.

Claim 22 (Original): The network of claim 19, wherein said first module and said second module are implemented in an operating system.

Claim 23 (Original): The network of claim 22, wherein said operating system is installed on at least one processor cell of said plurality of processor cells.

Claim 24 (Original): The network of claim 19, wherein said multiprocessor system includes at least two processor cells interconnected in a configuration chosen from a group of configurations consisting of: a fully interconnected configuration, a cross-bar configuration, a mesh configuration, or a ring configuration.

Claim 25 (Original): The network of claim 19, wherein said first module comprises:

software to determine whether said link provides sufficient bandwidth to perform said network operation.

Claim 26 (Original): The network of claim 19, wherein said first module comprises:

software to choose from a second link from said plurality of links when a first link of said plurality of

links does not provide sufficient bandwidth to perform said network operation.

Claim 27 (Original): The network of claim 19, wherein said second module comprises:

software to suspend said network operation when said link of said plurality of links is not providing sufficient bandwidth; and

software to resume said network operation when said link of said plurality of link provides sufficient bandwidth to perform said network operation.

Claim 28 (Original): The network of claim 19, wherein said second module comprises:

software to suspend said network operation when said link of said plurality of links is not providing sufficient bandwidth; and

software to perform said network operation on a second link of said plurality of links when said link is not providing sufficient bandwidth to perform said network operation.

Claim 29 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein utilizing said link further comprises:

avoiding the use of a network connection in the network.

Claim 30 (new): The method of claim 29, wherein said shared memory links provide higher bandwidth than the network connection.

Claim 31 (new): The method of claim 1, wherein the high bandwidth integrated circuit and the another high bandwidth integrated circuit each comprises an application specific integrated circuit.

Claim 32 (new): The method of claim 10, wherein utilizing said link further comprises:

avoiding the use of a network connection in the network.

Claim 33 (new): The method of claim 32, wherein said shared memory links provide higher bandwidth than the network connection.

Claim 34 (new): The method of claim 1,0 wherein the high bandwidth integrated circuit and the another high bandwidth integrated circuit each comprises an application specific integrated circuit.

Claim 35 (new): The network of claim 19, wherein the second module is configured to avoid the use of a network connection in the network by utilizing said link to perform said network operation.

Claim 36 (new): The network of claim 35, wherein said shared memory links provide higher bandwidth than the network connection.

Claim 37 (new): The network of claim 19, wherein the high bandwidth integrated circuit and the another high bandwidth integrated circuit each comprises an application specific integrated circuit.